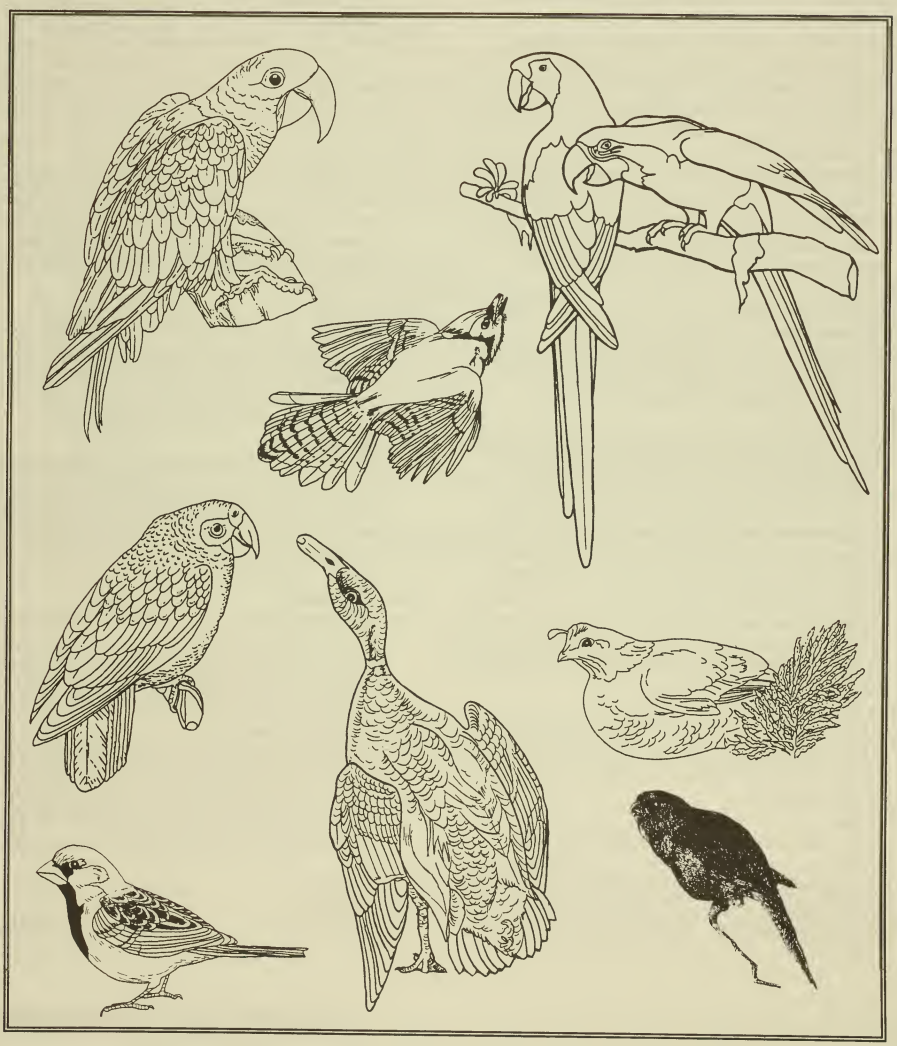
California GARDEN

MARCH-APRIL 2004 Volume 95 No. 2 $2.00



HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

Ongoing through September 7, 2004
SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Exhibit "Plant Portraits: The California Legacy of A.R. Valentien." Featured daily. See www.sdnhm.org.

Mar. 1 Mon.
CGCI FLORAL DESIGN FORUM 2003-2004 Shane Looper and Mary Crowell, two very creative designers and accredited Flower Show judges from San Francisco. Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad. 12:30-3:00 p.m. $8 door. 760/749-9608.

Mar. 1 Mon.
SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Lecture "Nature's Own Backyard: Historical Landscape Design in San Diego." 7-9 p.m. $6 members, $8 non-members. Register at 619/255-0203 or www.sdnhm.org.

Mar. 2 Tues.
★**UNDERWATER FLORAL ARRANGEMENT** with Velma West. SDFA Workshop. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Bring any glass container and flowers. $25. **Pre-registration required.** Send check to SDFA, 1650 El Prado, Room 105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622.

Mar. 4 Thurs.
QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Home Landscape Gardening Series "Landscape Design, Dave Ehrlinger." 7-8:30 p.m. Members $7, non-members $9. Ecke Building, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Register at 760/436-3036, ext. 206.

Mar. 5-7 Fri.-Sun.
19th ANNUAL SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW "All About Gardens." Showcasing "The Garden Masters Exposition 2004." Del Mar Fairgrounds. Fri. 12-8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission $12. Children 12 and under free.

Mar. 6 Sat.
THE HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Irrigation Workshop. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Landscape designer Jenny Rees will lead an outdoor workshop on different options and techniques. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. Members $35, non-members $45. Register at 626/405-2128 or www.huntington.org.

Mar. 6 Sat.
SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Adult Class "Edible Flowers." 10 a.m.-Noon. $20 members, $25 non-members. Register at 619/255-0203 or www.sdnhm.org.

Mar. 6 Sat.
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Containers & Hanging Baskets. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Garden Railroading Class 2, Getting Started, Planning the Line. 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Mar. 8 Mon.
SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Monthly Meeting featuring Richard Schulhof and "Yellow Camellias in Vietnam." 6:30 p.m. Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds on Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar. Free.

Mar. 9 Tues.
SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART Lecture "Experiencing the Landscapes of George Inness." With Art Historian Michael Quick, former curator of American art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. 11 a.m. $16/$20 w/o lunch or $34/$38 with lunch; or 6 p.m. $16/$20 ($10 students with I.D.) includes wine and light hors d'oeuvres at 5:30 p.m. San Diego Museum of Art, Balboa Park. 619/232.7931 or www.sdmart.org.

Mar. 9 Tues.
SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Gallery Talk "Valentien's Plant Portraits." Join the curator for an informal discussion of the paintings featured in the Museum's exhibition. 7-8:30 p.m. $6 members, $8 non-members. Register at 619/255-0203 or www.sdnhm.org.

Mar. 10 Wed.
BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB Meeting "Floral Designer: Abby Pascucci" Social 9:30 a.m.; Program 11 a.m. Bonita Wesleyan Church, 5305 Sweetwater Rd., Bonita. Laura 619/435-1631 or email lrock1221@aol.com. Visitors welcome. Free.

Mar. 11 Thurs.
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Garden Talk & Sale "Gardens of Succulents." 2:30 p.m. in Friends' Hall. Patrick Anderson will share his secrets for using succulents as part of a beautiful home landscape. Plant sale follows. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. 626/405-2100. Free.

Mar. 11 Thurs.
QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Home Landscape Gardening Series "Pruning Basics, Dave Ehrlinger." 7-8:30 p.m. Members $7, non-members $9. Ecke Building, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Register at 760/436-3036, ext. 206.

Mar. 11 and 21 Thurs.
SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART Gallery Talk "The Landscapes of George Inness." SDMA Chief Curator D. Scott Atkinson tours George Inness and the Visionary Landscape. 6 p.m. SD Museum of Art, Balboa Park. 619/232.7931 or www.sdmart.org. Free.

(continued on page 36)

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We welcome articles, photographs, drawings, and ideas from amateurs or professionals. Deadlines for a next issue are the 20th of January, March, May, July, September, and November. We do not pay for articles or artwork. We cannot guarantee the safe return of material. *California Garden* reserves the right to edit any and all submitted material. Submissions must be double spaced and/or on a computer disk from IBM or compatible, in WordPerfect 5.1. DOS. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors of *California Garden*. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products that are not mentioned.

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VOLUME 95 NUMBER 2

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE HANDS-ON GARDENER
MARCH-APRIL 2004

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COVER drawings of birds that have inhabited a San Diego coastal area, from *Big Book of Bird Illustrations* by Dover Publications

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WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, 513-4900, 12755 Danielson Court, Poway CA 92064-6847

FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairman contact *California Garden*, 619/232-5762 if you want the magazine sold at your show.

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"HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR", CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34

Mar. 13 Sat.

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Orchid Workshop: Phalaenopsis. 1-4 p.m. Doug Conkin will lead an afternoon workshop on its care and cultivation, including a tour of The Huntington's orchid greenhouse. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. Register: 626/405-2146. Members $30, non-members $40.

Mar. 13 Sat.

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on General Orchid Care & Culture. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Proven Winners Potting Day....Special Event. 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Mar. 13-14 Sat.-Sun.

UC IRVINE ARBORETUM WINTER BULB FESTIVAL "Prelude to Spring." Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Corner of Campus Drive and Jamboree Road on UCI North Campus. Non-members $2, members free. 949/824-5833 for details.

Mar. 17 Wed.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY Monthly Meeting. Dave Pattison of Western Farm Service will speak about "Pest Management in Orchids" Culture class at 6:30 p.m., meeting 7 p.m. Refreshments. Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad. 760/451-1472. Free.

Mar. 17-21 Wed.-Sun.

SAN FRANCISCO FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW at the Cow Palace. Wed.-Sat. 9 a.m.- 8 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Group rates available and discounts at certain hotels. See www.gardenshow.com or call 206/789-5333.

Mar. 19 Fri.

CUYAMACA COLLEGE BOTANICAL SOCIETY 15th Annual Turf Management Seminar, 6:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. **Deadline to register 3/12/2004**. Optional tour to Petco Park. $60 w/o tour; $75 w/tour. Mail check CCBS Turf Seminar, 900 Rancho San Diego Pkwy., El Cajon, CA 92019. Contact Tita Heimpel 619/660-4262.

Mar. 19-21 Fri.-Sun.

SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW 59th Annual Orchid Show "Wonderful World of Orchids." 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Earl Warren Showgrounds Exhibit Building, 3400 Calle Real, (Highway 101 and Los Positas Rd) Santa Barbara. 805/967-6331. General $10, Seniors and students w/I.D. $8, Kids under 12 free.

Mar. 20 Sat.

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION LIBRARY open 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri., and the third Saturday. SDFA members can check out books. (Membership $10 a year, includes magazine.) Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 105. 619/232-5762.

Mar. 20 Sat.

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Spring Lawn Care. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Spring Rose Care. 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Mar. 20-21 Sat.-Sun.

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL-Chapter 119 36th Annual Japanese Flower Arrangement and Cultural Exhibition: Springtime Fantasy. 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. both days. Ikebana, Silk Painting, Bonkei-Tray Landscapes, Dance, and Music demonstrations as well as special displays. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101 (and Room 102 on Sunday). 619/223-8879. Free.

Mar. 26-28 Fri.-Sun.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY 58th Annual Spring Orchid Show and Sale. "Orchids, California Style" Fri. 4-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. www.sdorchids.com. Admission $5, children under 12 free.

Mar. 26 - Apr. 14th

BALBOA PARK BOTANICAL BUILDING Easter Lily Display. 300 Easter lilies amongst the 2,100 permanent tropical plants, carnivorous plant bog, and "touch and smell" garden. Open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Closed Thursday and City holidays.) Free.

Mar. 27 Sat.

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Adult Class "Spring Basket." Make small 5-by-8 inch tool basket using flat reeds. 9 a.m.-Noon. $30 members, $35 non-members. Register at 619/255-0203 or www.sdnhm.org.

Mar. 27 Sat.

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASS on Water Gardening. 9 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or, Organic Gardening. Special event with vendors. 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

Mar. 27-28 Sat.-Sun.

CALIFORNIA BONSAI SOCIETY 47th Annual Bonsai Show. 10:30 a.m-4:30 p.m. in Friends' Hall, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. 626/405-2100. General admission.

Mar. 27-28 Sat.-Sun.

PASADENA GARDEN CLUB 2004 Flower, Horticultural, and Photography Show, "Garden Voices, Then and Now." Sat. 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sun. 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at Huntington Botanical Gardens in the new Rose Hill Foundation Conservatory for Botanical Science (officially opens 10/2004). 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. 626/405/2100. Entry free with general admission.

Mar. 27-28 Sat.-Sun.

TAKA SUMI-E PAINTING SHOW. 11 a.m-4 p.m. both days. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Call 619/464-0544 for information. Free.

Mar. 28 Sun.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY Famous Florida grower and founder of "The Exotic Plumeria", Alan Bunch. 1-3 p.m. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 102. 619/443-4795 or 760/451-1472. Free admission and refreshments.

Mar. 31 Wed.

THE HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Urban Tree Biology. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Continuing series for arborists and amateurs alike, Botanical Gardens Director Jim Folsom will lead a workshop about the biology of trees, including anatomy, structures, and soils. 1151 Oxford Rd.,San Marino. Register at 626/405-2146. Members, $75, non-members $85.

Mar. 31 Wed.

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Class and Fieldtrip "Fire Ecology: What's Next for San Diego's Backcountry." Class 6:30-9:30 p.m. Cost includes field trip on Apr. 3, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. $59 members, $69 non-members. 619/255-0203 or www.sdnhm.org.

Apr. 3 Sat.

SAN DIEGO SPRING HOME GARDENING SEMINAR Select from 40 classes, sponsored by Master Gardener Association. Marina Village Conference Center. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. **Registration deadline March 23.** $33.00 for 4 seminars. Call 858/694-2860 or www.mastergardenerssandiego.org.

Apr. 3-4 Sat.-Sun.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY Annual Cutting Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. A great and economical way to begin growing, or adding to your collection. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. 619/443-4795 or 760/451-1472. Free admission and planting demonstration.

Apr. 5 Mon.

CGCI FLORAL DESIGN FORUM 2003-2004 Perry & Gloria Aminian of Bakersfield. Perry is an award winning designer, accredited Flower Show Judge and ceramic artist. Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad. 12:30-3:00 p.m. $8 Door. 760/749-9608.

Apr. 8 Thurs.

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Garden Talk & Plant Sale 2:30 p.m. "Edible Landscaping and Permaculture." with landscape designer Lissa Carter. Plant sale follows. Friends's Hall, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. 626/405-2100. Free.

Apr. 12 Mon.

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Special monthly meeting featuring speaker and author Betsy Clebsch on "Salvias for Southern California." 6:30 p.m. Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds on Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar. $15 members, $18 non-members. **Deadline for receipt of reservation is 4/9/2004.** Send check with SASE Dayna Hydrick, 4342 Pavlov Ave., San Diego, CA 92122.

Apr. 14 Wed.

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB Regular Meeting: Social 9:30 a.m.; Program 11 a.m. Bonita Wesleyan Church, 5305 Sweetwater Rd., Bonita. Laura 619/435-1631 or email lrock1221@aol.com. Visitors welcome. Free.

Apr. 14 Wed.

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Garden Workshop: Perennials 101. Designed for beginners and intermediate gardeners, taught by Katarina Eriksson, Head Gardener of the Perennial Gardens. 2-5 p.m. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. To register, call 626/405-2128. Members $25, non-members $30.

Apr. 17 Sat.

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Orchid Workshop: Cymbidiums. 1-4 p.m. Doug Conkin and Ernest Hetherington will lead a class discussing care, indoors and out, and transplanting. Includes tour of The Huntington's Cymbidium collection. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. Register: 626/405-2146.

Apr. 17 Sat.(rain date Apr. 18)

MIRACOSTA HORTICULTURE CLUB OF OCEANSIDE 8th Annual Gardeners' Market Plant Sale. 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the west Oceanside Wal-Mart store, 2100 Vista Way at the Jefferson exit. This is a fundraiser for MiraCosta College student scholarships. 760/643-0177.

Apr. 17 Sat.

RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB Presents: "A Garden Tour & Luncheon." Check-in 8:30, shuttle leaves at 9 a.m.,tour four gardens, lunch at Delicias, ends at 4 p.m. Cost is $40 members, $50 non-members. **Early reservations required**. Mail check to RSF Garden Club Programs, P.O. Box 483, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067.

Apr. 17 Sat.

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION LIBRARY will be open from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. See March 20th for more details.

Apr. 17-18 Sat.-Sun.

CARLSBAD FLOWER FIELDS 4th Annual Orchid Festival. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Hundreds of beautiful and exotic blooming orchids and acres of colorful ranunculus fields. General admission $7 adults, $6 seniors, and $4 children 3-10 yrs.

Apr. 17-18 Sat.-Sun.

CORONADO FLOWER SHOW 78th Annual Flower Show "Nature at Play" under the Big White Tent between 6th & 7th on Orange Ave. Sat. 1-5:30 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. $3 adults, children and CFA members free. www.coronadoflowershow.com.

Apr. 17-18 Sat.-Sun.

EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY Annual Show and Sale. 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. both days. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Free.

Apr. 18 Sun.

RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB "Flower

Show and Plant Sale." 10 a.m-4 p.m. at the Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club, 17025 Avenida de Acacias, Rancho Santa Fe. Free.

Apr. 20 Tues.

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING "Gardening for Winged Wildlife: Hummingbirds, Songbirds and Butterflies" with Maureen Austin of CHIRP. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101, 7 p.m. Free. Catered dinner precedes the meeting at 6 p.m. **Reservations required by April 16th** for dinner. $11 members, $15 non-members. 619/232-5762.

Apr. 20 Tues.

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Class and Fieldtrip "Flowers after the Storm: Wildflowers and the Cedar Fire." Class 6:30-8:30 p.m. Cost includes field trip on Apr. 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. $59 members, $69 non-members. 619/255-0203 or www.sdnhm.org.

Apr. 21. Wed.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY Monthly Meeting. Culture class at 6:30 p.m., meeting 7 p.m. Refreshments. Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad. 760/451-1472. Free.

Apr. 21 & 28 Wed.

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS Annuals for the Garden with Brian Sullivan. 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino. Registration: 626/405-2128. Both classes: Members, $40, non-members $60. One class only: Members $25, non-members $35.

Apr. 24 Sat.

2ND ANNUAL ELFIN FOREST GARDEN FESTIVAL "Blossoms and Barns." Tour eight beautiful award winning gardens. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Elfin Forest Landscape Foundation. $20, and additional $12 for lunch at Questhaven Retreat. Mail check to Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council, 20652 Elfin Forest Rd., Escondido CA 92029 or see www.elfinforestgardens.info/index.html and order tickets online. 760/471-7224.

Apr. 24 Sat.

3RD ANNUAL POINT LOMA GARDEN TOUR in wooded area. Hosted by The Dana Unit of Children's Hospital Auxiliary. Proceeds to benefit Children's Hospital and Health Center. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tickets and information available by calling 619/225-8647. $12 in advance or $17 day of event.

Apr. 24 Sat.

POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB 27th Annual Flower Show "Holidays" at Old Poway Park from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (Designer entries welcome - deadline Apr. 17.) 858/672-6225 or 760/788-1393. Free.

Apr. 24-25 Sat.-Sun.

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB 73rd Annual Standard Flower Show "Festival of Flowers" and Plant Sale. Fallbrook Community Center, 341 Heald Lane, Fallbrook. Sat. 2-6 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Entries welcome. 760/451-0792. Free.

Apr. 24-25 Sat.-Sun.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Herb Festival and Plant Sale. 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. 760/436-3036 or www.qbgardens.org.

Apr. 24-25 Sat.-Sun.

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB 39th Annual Spring Show. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. both days. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Bonsai trees, pots, accessories, and plants for sale. Free.

Apr. 25 Sun.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY Expert panel will discuss and demonstrate potting up Plumeria cuttings to insure healthy and vigorous growth. Q&A follows. 1-3 p.m. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 102. 619/443-4795 or 760/451-1472. Free admission and refreshments.

Apr. 25-28 Sun.-Wed.

CAMBRIA NURSERY AND FLORIST "Gardener's Boot Camp: A Gardener's Fantasy Vacation" For information call 805-927-4747, 800-414-6915 or send email to events@cambrianursery.com.

May 1 Sat.

CLAIREMONT GARDEN TOUR Check www.clairemont-tc.net or call 858/831-9555 for information.

May 1-2 Sat.-Sun.

SAN DIEGO IRIS SOCIETY SHOW Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Free.

May 1-2 Sat.-Sun.

UC IRVINE ARBORETUM SPRING PERENNIAL SALE Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Corner of Campus Drive and Jamboree Road on UCI North Campus. Non-members $2, members free. 949/824-5833 for details.

May 3 Mon.

CGCI FLORAL DESIGN FORUM 2003-2004 Shirl Eastman, designer and instructor of Valley Center. Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad. 12:30-3:00 p.m. $8 Door. 760/749-9608.

BALBOA PARK

SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN Open Tues. thru Sun. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Docent tours with reservations. Fee. 619/232-2721.

OFFSHOOT TOURS Ranger guided. Various topics. Saturdays 10:00 a.m. Meet at Visitors Center in Plaza de Panama. 619/235-1121. Free.

INTERPRETIVE WALKS Ranger guided. History oriented topics. Meet at Visitors Center in Plaza de Panama. Tuesdays and Sundays at 1:00 p.m. Free.

ONGOING EVENTS

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Canyoneer Walks. Sat-Sun. Sept-June. 619/232-3821 ext 203 or www.sdnhm.org for

locations, times and directions. Free.

SAN DIEGO ZOO ORCHID ODYSSEY. Third Friday of every month. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., showcasing orchids from Papua New Guinea, Central and South America, Africa, Thailand, Australia, China, and Vietnam. Free with Zoo admission.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS Garden Tours & Events. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. 760/436-3036 or (www.qbgardens.com). General Admission.

BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE Walks. Poway. Sat. & Sun. 9:00 a.m. 858/679-5469.

WALKABOUT INTERNATIONAL Local Guided Walks. Newsletter. 619/231-SHOE. Free.

CUYAMACA COLLEGE Water Conservation Garden Landscape Seminar on 2nd Saturday of each month. 9:30 a.m. Docent tours Sat. 10:30 a.m. and Sun. 1:30 p.m. 619/660-0614. Free.

THE HUNTINGTON is open Tuesday through Friday noon to 4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed Monday and most holidays. $12.50 adults, $10 seniors, $8.50 students (12-18), $5 for youth (5-11) children under 5 and members free. Group rate (10+) $9.50. 626/405-2100 or www.huntington.org.

"DOWN TO EARTH" with Tom Piergrossi daily at 11:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on CTN. Time Warner 22, Cox 19 or 24 and Adelphia 66.

GARDENING CLASSES

BETTY NEWTON

7-WEEK COURSE

Cutting Your Water Bill: Using the Right Plants, the Right Way

Beginning April 22 Thurs. A.M.

Foothills Adult Center. 8:50 a.m.-Noon. Room 12. 1550 Melody Lane, El Cajon. 619/401/4122. $28.

JOYCE GEMMEL

6-WEEK COURSE

Biodynamic and French Intensive Methods for Vegetable Gardens

Beginning April 22 Tues. A.M.

Steele Canyon Adult School. 9 a.m.-Noon. 12440 Campo Rd., Spring Valley 619/401/4122 or 619/660-7000 $25.

Beginning April 23 Weds. A.M.

Foothills Adult Center. 9 a.m.-Noon. Room 12. 1550 Melody Lane, El Cajon. 619/401/4122. $25.

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY CLASSES are held every Saturday 9 a.m. at 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego. 619/224-8271. Or 9:30 a.m. at 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway. 858/513-4900. Free.

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN at Cuyamaca Community College,12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, holds Landscape Seminars on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m. 619/660-0614 or www.thegarden.org. Free.

Deadline for submission to **HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR** for MAY-JUNE issue is MARCH 15. **SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** is not responsible for changes that are submitted late by the organizations. Please send events to calendar@sdfloral.org.

Antonelli Brothers

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS
2545 Capitola Road
Santa Cruz, California 95062
18-page Catalog $1.00

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

NOW is the time to join! Learn how easy and fun it is to grow orchids. Meet the experts through society activities including lectures, tours, open houses, and classes.

The society meets the first Tuesday of every month at Casa del Prado in Balboa Park. Cultural classes start at 6:30 p.m. in the library, followed by the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in room 101. Refreshments, orchid display, and an orchid raffle follow the meeting.

All this and a great monthly newsletter for only $10.00 (single membership) or $12.50 (dual membership) per year. Don't delay, make your check out today to the SDCOS and mail to:

Vivian Follmer
SDCOS Membership
13127 Roundup
San Diego, CA 92129
(619) 538-6187

Gleanings . . .

gathered by barbara jones

FIRE STATISTICS . . .
Rangers, ecologists, geographers, archaeologists have all been evaluating the results of the 28 October 2003 Cedars Fire on Cuyamaca Rancho State Park in the San Diego backcountry. The following information was gleaned from an informative article in the 9 January 2004 Los Angeles Times.

Only about 300 acres of the forests and the meadows of the 24,581 acre park were spared. It is estimated that 500,000 to 1 million native trees died. Only three of the Coulter pines survived. It takes about 20 years for a Coulter pine to mature and produce seeds naturally. The ponderosa and sugar pines reseed faster. Also, the oaks will reseed. The experts estimate that if all goes well a beautiful, natural mixed forest similar to the one we had on 27 October 2003 could again exist in about 100 years!

GERANIUMS . . .
With the current fad for painting houses, inside and out, with brilliant or very dark colors, most vegetation visibly disappears. Most flowers are too delicate or faintly colored. Not so our old standby, the geranium. You will find it in gardening books under *Pelargonium*. Because they grow so rambunctiously and need to be whacked-down rather than trimmed, some people shun them without really looking. The common variety, that has been grown here for over 100 years, is really a beautiful plant. The flowers are handsome and brilliantly colored, the foliage is interestingly shaped, and the stems are graceful and sturdy.

For easier identification they are divided into 4 categories: **Common** or **Zonal, Scented, Regal,** or **Martha Washington**, and **Ivy**. Some have lovely flowers, others are prized for their leaves — often scented. In other parts of the United States all geraniums are prized plants, often grown in pots. You probably will be surprised at the lovely plants that are available. (Watch for the Geranium show in Casa del Prado in May.)

In our climate most geraniums grow easily outdoors, use limited water and can withstand drought, don't sunburn, and are relatively disease and pest free. They easily can be grown from cuttings. It is a wonderful plant!

Now for some history. Geraniums are native to a variety of habitats, high and low, mostly in South Africa. The plant was introduced into Europe and England in the 1600s. Geraniums became very popular during the Victorian Period. (During the Victorian Period Americans enthusiastically adopted all plants and customs popular in England.)

EXOTIC FOOD . . .
When the earliest settlers came to San Diego they brought their familiar food plants. In 1769 the friars who founded the missions brought oranges, grapes, olives, pomegranates, figs, palms, wheat, barley, peas, and lentils. To the East Coast of America, the earliest European settlers brought cabbage, onions, rye, carrots, peaches, plums, apples, wheat, flax, and dandelions (for early spring greens). When the eastern settlers came to San Diego they brought their imported plants here. Most of our locally grown food plants are exotics (the word used to describe plants that are not native).

PALMS . . .
According to the book *Trees and Gardens of Balboa Park* by Puplava and Sirois there are over 2000 palms (60 species) growing in Balboa Park. This makes up about 15% of the park forest. In the book, sixteen of the palms are described with pictures and maps of where they can be found. On the 2nd Saturday of each month, rangers lead a palm tour of the park. It's free. The walk starts in front of the Visitors Center at 10:00 A.M. If you are interested in palms, this book and tour would be very valuable.

FREE SHADE TREES . . .
Not only do shade trees aesthetically improve a landscape but they save energy (energy cost), reduce soil erosion, and improve the air. *The Cool Communities Shade Tree Program* of the San Diego Regional Energy Office was started to reduce energy use. The information bulletin prepared for this project is chock-full of valuable information on selecting trees suitable for this area and planting and maintaining them. Residents of San Diego County are eligible for large, free trees.

For information call (619)222-8753. The bulletin is available, too.

TREES FOR HEALTH GARDEN, PART II

CITY OF SAN DIEGO PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT, BALBOA PARK ADMINISTRATION

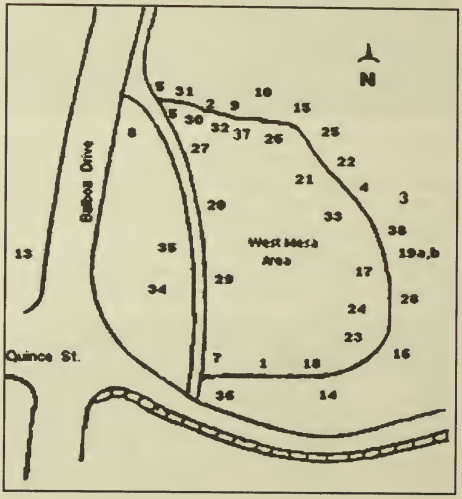
"Throughout history, every culture has turned to plants for nutritional and medicinal needs. Even in this technological age, scientists and natural healers alike, explore the botanical world for medicinal solutions. This garden will allow Balboa Park visitors to understand the history of traditional medicine throughout the world and develop an appreciation for healing plants in the future." *Kathy Puplava, Balboa Park Horticulturist*

The purpose of this educational garden is to promote a better understanding of the value and uses of medicinal plants, both throughout our history and in our future. It develops public appreciation of local and global conservation through interpretation and by maintaining a living collection of plants for public display and study.

Trees for Health Garden Enhancement Project

Most of the trees in this medicinal garden are in West Mesa Area off Balboa Drive, just north of Quince St. near 6th Ave. Three are in Redwood Circle just south of the garden. Many mature trees described below may be found elsewhere in Balboa Park.

Post #	Alphabetical Order of Common name
8	African Sausage Tree
35	African Tulip Tree
38	African Walnut
17	Allspice
19a	Black Walnut
14	Blue Gum
27	California Bay
32	California Buckeye
19	California Walnut
4	Camphor
31	Chaste Tree
22	Chinese Jujube
23	Cinnamon
11	Coast Live Oak
37	Coffee Berry
1	Desert Willow
24	Feathery Cassia
30	Fringe Tree
28	Globe Willow
25	Happy Tree
33	Honey Locust
18	Honey Mesquite
5	Juniper chinensis
21	Lemonadeberry
26	Lombardy Poplar
13	Magnolia
6	Maidenhair Tree



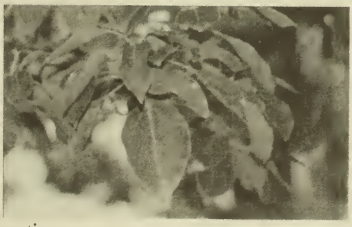
10	Moreton Bay Chestnut
3	Olive
2	Pau Dnarco
20	Pecan
7	Pomegranate
29	Princess Tree
15	Silk Tree
12	Sweet Gum
9	Tea Tree
34	Tulip Tree
16	White Mulberry
36	White Popinac

(Numbers 1 through 21 were featured in the January-February 2004 issue.)

22 CHINESE JUJUBE *(Ziziphus jujuba)*
Rhamnaceae family. Deciduous, height 20-30′. The

branches are spiny and gnarled, leaves shiny, bright, and green with three prominent veins, yellow flowers in late spring. The fruit is used to strengthen the digestive process, increase stamina and endurance, and helps the liver to process toxins.

23 CINNAMON *(Cinnamomum verum) [C. zeylanocum]*
Lauraceae family. Evergreen, height 30′, with panicles of tiny cream-colored, malodorous flowers and purple berries. native to Southern Asia. The inner bark is used to stimulate blood circulation, lower fever and blood pressure, control bleeding and infection, and improve digestion.



24 FEATHERY CASSIA *(Cassia artemisioides)*
Fabaceae family. Evergreen, height 6′, gray-green needle-like foliage, sulfur-yellow flowers in clusters bloom in late winter, early spring, followed by 3« seed pods. native to Australia. Drought resistant. Medicinally important as a laxative used by many cultures.

25 HAPPY TREE *(Camptotheca acuminata)*
Nyssaceae family. Deciduous, height 70′. native to China and Tibet. Leaves elliptic and alternately spaced. Has natural alkaloid called camptothecin which is a promising anticancer-agent. In China it is used to treat leukemia and cancers of the stomach and liver.

26 LOMBARDY POPULAR *(Populus nigra)*
Salicaceae family. Deciduous, height 40-100′,

columnar growth habit, bright, green triangular leaves turn golden yellow in fall. Catkin flowers appear before

the leaves in spring. Buds, bark and leaves contain salcin and are used for fever, as a diuretic, expectorant, and bitter tonic.

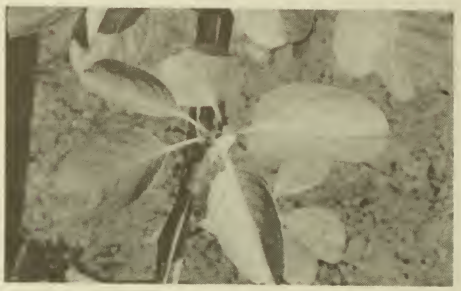
27 CALIFORNIA BAY *(Umbellularia californica)*
Lauraceae family.

Evergreen, height 75′, aromatic foliage, inconspicuous yellow-green flowers and inedible nut-like fruit. native to California and Oregon. The leaves were used by California Indians for headaches, stomach ailments, and rheumatism. Today the leaves are used as a flavor additive.

28 GLOBE WILLOW *(Salix matsudana)*
Salicaceae family. Deciduous, height 70′, and as wide, flowers are catkins. The leaves and bark yield salicylic acid and are used in the reduction of inflammations of joints and for headaches, fever, neuralgia and hay fever. native Americans used the stems in basket making.

29 PRINCESS TREE (*Paulownia tomentosa*)
Bignoniaceae family. Deciduous, 40′ to 50′ high and wide. Showy lavender flowers in spring. A cultivar 'Lilacina' is planted in the direction of the arrow on sign. Used to stimulate hair growth, treat fevers and delirium, bruises, liver ailments and warts.

30 FRINGE TREE (*Chionanthus virginicus*)



Oleaceae family. Deciduous, height 30′. native to Eastern U.S. Fragrant fringe-like white flowers in spring, followed by egg-shaped purple-blue berries. The bark of the root or stem is used to treat liver and gallbladder diseases. It stimulates appetite and is used as a tonic after long illnesses.

31 CHASTE TREE *(Vitex agnus-castus)*
Verbenaceae family. Deciduous, height 6-26′, multi-trunked, aromatic compound leaves with 7« spikes of lavender flower clusters in summer and fall, fruit is drupe. The berries are a hormone balancer and are used for menstrual and menopausal problems and to treat fibroid tumors.

Continued on page 53

SOME LIKE IT HOT
PLANTS THAT CAN TAKE THE HEAT©

BY PAT PAWLOWSKI

IT'S COMING. YOU KNOW it's coming—after all, most mornings here at your inland valley homestead have lost their chill and some afternoons have actually gotten a little too warm for the average taste.

Heat.

There'll be a hot time in the old garden some night.

In the inland areas of San Diego County, temps eventually will get up in the high 90's and even in the low 100's. (I remember a Mother's Day several years ago when the high temp was 94 degrees.) But when it gets too hot outside—even in the shade—you can always get up and get cool by (1) going into your air-conditioned dwelling; (2) heading west to the Southland's moderate coastal area; or (3) bopping around in one of our county's enclosed, obscenely huge shopping malls.

However, it's a different story if you are a plant. Try as you might, your little roots will not let you get away to escape the blistering heat; instead, you will stay rooted (forgive me) to the spot. You will have to grow used to the heat; you can't beat it.

Or can you?

Well, that probably depends on who you are. Are you a high-dry-heat-hating fuchsia or a heat-sock-it-to-me sage? Let's hope your gardener friend had selected wisely when shopping for you; inland heat can cook many types of plants.

IF YOU CAN'T STAND THE HEAT, GET OUT OF THE GARDEN

Can you see what we're driving at here?

To all you high-heat-living gardeners:

You can spend much time and perspiration trying to create a moderate microclimate for heat-pooped plants. For example, you could situate the garden near a north-facing wall; shield plants from drying winds; provide some shade; mulch adequately; and keep plants away from heat-reflecting walls and cement. If you're feeling playful you can provide the following: a beach umbrella to shield sensitive plants from the sun; a lovely misting every few minutes (for the plant); soft soothing music (perhaps Handel's *Water Music*). Remember also to speak quietly when in the presence of heat-sensitive species; some types can wilt at the very mention of the words "heat wave."

OR, if you want to take the easy way out, you can:

PLANT HOTTIES

For a low-maintenance, guilt-free garden, the trick is to pick plants that like having a hot time now and then. And in addition to accepting heat, the following greenery will attract wildlife to your yard:

Phlox spp.

Sage (*Salvia* spp.) - There are dozens to choose from. Hummingbirds will be ecstatic if you choose pineapple sage (*S. elegans*) with its nectarous, notoriously red tubular flowers. The yummily-scented leaves can float languidly in a drink, which you will certainly need at sometime or other.

Native sages recommended by Valerie Phillips of Las Pilitas Nursery include purple sage (*S. leucophylla*) with its silvery leaves; and Cleveland sage (*S. clevelandii*), that will stay green if you give it light summer water. After it blooms you can deadhead it and then cut it back in early fall, before the rains come.

Many other California native plants welcome hot weather. A good-looking, low-growing native is *Ceanothus* 'Joyce Coulter' with its richly blue flowers that beckon butterflies and hummingbirds.

For a larger heat lover, consider toyon (*Heteromeles*

arbutifolia), an extremely handsome evergreen shrub or tree that can grow 8-15 feet tall and as wide. In addition, its colorful red berries (toyon 'Davis Gold' has golden ones) are loved by birds.

Sugar bush (*Rhus ovata*) is a large, well-groomed evergreen shrub with oval leaves. It will take high heat and low water and provides diminutive fruits to birds.

Many manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos* spp.) provide dainty charming urn-shaped blossoms and wonderful reddish bark, plus berries for birds. The cultivar 'Austin Griffith' is 6-8 feet tall with lots of nice pink flowers.

MORE HOT STUFF

High-heat plants to please veggie devotees include beans, tomatoes, corn, and okra. Plant herbs near veggies to encourage beneficial insects. Beneficial bugs such as lacewings and ladybugs will keep villains like aphids, scale, and whiteflies under control. When planting tomatoes, plant too much, so that even if some don't make it, you will still have enough for the family. (NOTE: In the case of okra, it's okay if you plant too little. Also, if your okra prospers, you can always give some away to friends. For distribution to enemies, it is recommended that you cook the okra first.)

There are many ornamental exotics—those that thrive in hot spots in their native lands—that will do equally well in high heat here.

Lantana (*Lantana* spp.), native to tropical parts of the U.S.A. and Mexico, does well in high heat. Bush types and trailing kinds all provide flowers for butterflies, hummingbirds, and beneficial insects. It's also drought tolerant and likes poor soil. What more could you want?

Well, you could want butterfly bush.

At Plants for Your Home (a nursery located in East San Diego County), Kitty highly recommends butterfly bush (*Buddleja* spp., [buddleia]) if you want a big shrub that grows vigorously in high heat and attracts butterflies. You might have to prune it now and then, but exercise is good for you anyway.

Coneflower or black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia* spp.) is a daisylike perennial, excellent for cutting and for attracting nectar-seekers.

Vinca (*Vinca* spp.) is a perennial with flowers of bright pink or white with glossy green foliage; rabbits do not seem to eat them so you'll actually be able to enjoy looking at them for a while.

Many species of acacia (*Acacia* spp.) enjoy heat and grow very quickly; as for variety in flower color, here's hoping you like yellow.

Additional trees for heat include olive (*Olea europaea*), oak (*Quercus* spp.), and coral trees (*Erythrina* spp.)

Good shrubs are bottlebrush (*Callistemon* spp.), plumbago (*Plumbago* spp.), rosemary (*Rosmarinus* spp.), rockrose (*Cistus* spp.), grevillea (*Grevillea* spp.), and pineapple guava (*Feijoa sellowiana*).

Vines include honeysuckle (*Lonicera* spp.), bougainvillea (*Bougainvillea* spp.), and poet's jasmine (*Jasminum officinale*).

Herbaceous heat-lovers include phlox (*Phlox drummondii*), verbena (*Verbena* spp.), milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.), thyme (*Thymus* spp.), iris (*Iris* spp.), sea lavender (*Limonium perezii*), nasturtium (*Tropaeolum* spp.) and petunia (*Petunia hybrida*).

Acacia greggii

There are many more. Some of the above grow in my garden; others are listed in a wonderful book called *Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions* by Roland Stewart Hoyt. This book has descriptions and lists of plants for every need and desire. The San Diego Floral Association in Balboa Park has copies. You might plan to sashay down there, or you can contact them at 619-232-5762 or www.sdfloral.org.

DON'T BE A HOTHEAD

The best strategy for a successful hot weather garden is to plant things that will actually grow there; as stated above, many California natives accept heat. What is interesting to note is the proliferation of birds and butterflies in the hotter months. Instead of wasting time and moisture by planting wiltable water guzzlers, opt for heat-amenable, drought-tolerant species so you can sit back, watch the wildlife show, and keep cool. □

Text copyright by Pat Pawlowski, who is a writer/lecturer and the wildlife garden designer of Animated Gardens, 619-390-9399.

CALENDAR OF COLOR ⇒ ⇒ ⇒

BY BETTY NEWTON

THIS CHART IS INDEED handcrafted — just me and my inkpen. No computer literate friend could transcribe the Calendar of Color into tidy print. We tried. This wheel of flower and shrub color was created originally for my landscaping class by me. I used Roland Hoyt's marvelous lists in *Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions*. I labeled it "Succession of Bloom Color in the Landscape Year-Round." I send it to *California Garden* now so it may do still more good.

Certainly the page is a great stretching test for a developing gardener. With different levels of experience, Southern California gardeners can visualize different percentages of the listed plants. We all understand fall, winter, and spring if we have been here awhile and how those seasons manifest themselves here. However, after twenty-seven years of teaching gardeners of different levels of experience, I know that only a small percentage can glance at this chart, say "October" and say, "Oh, yes, she has in mind the 12-inch evergreen white zephyr lily with blue *Aster frikartii*, yellow oleanders (*Thevetia)* and those smaller, early camellias" They can all bloom in the same scene in October.

Or, "Look! In July I could have purple statice with the yellow pearl acacia and maybe some floppy pink cosmos. That could be pretty!" And if our goal is an increasingly attractive landscape or garden, then this tool can really help.

> Learn plant names the same way I did. Write the common names beside the botanicals or vice versa. The botanical names are the only ones that count (she says severely), because those are the only names that will get you to a good description and discussion of the culture. Most truly popular plants have at least four common names. Try researching African daisy or mock orange.

To know that Australian bluebell creeper is *Sollya*, and that it has a wiry look with half-inch bell flowers in June is POWER! Power to make beauty happen. □

Betty Newton teaches for Grossmont Adult Education.

San Diego Horticultural Society

Garden Preview Party

Preview to the 19th Annual Spring Home/Garden Show

Thursday, March 4, 7:00 p.m.

Members: $35, Non-members: $45

- Be first to see the display gardens of the Spring Home/Garden Show PLUS the indoor Flower Show
- Meet the Garden Masters & learn about their wonderful exhibits
- Mingle with Garden Masters, Judges & San Diego garden lovers
- Celebrate Horticulturist of the Year ***Vincent Lazaneo***
- Be first to learn the winners of the Garden Master Awards
- Enjoy Hors d'oeuvres and a lavish "Very Berry" Dessert Buffet
- Wander at your leisure without the crowds
- Buy tickets to win wonderful items in our Opportunity Drawing

Information: (760) 436-0460 or party@sdhortsoc.org

Enjoy the fun at this year's Expanded

Spring Home/Garden Show

March 5, 6 & 7

Del Mar Fairgrounds

Includes Gardens on Display, Huge Plant Sale, Indoor Flower Show, & kids garden activities!

Details at www.sdhortsoc.org or call (760) 436-0460

Meetings 2nd Monday of every month, 6:30pm

Free Admission – Everyone Welcome!

Surfside Race Place

San Diego County Fairgrounds, Del Mar

Join us for a guest speaker, plant sales, plant display. Meetings are open to all. Membership brings you:

- Monthly 26-page newsletter
- Trips to outstanding gardens
- Local garden tours
- Discounts at nurseries
- Seed & plant swap
- Video and book library
- Annual Garden Party
- and much more!

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

March 8: Yellow Camellias from Vietnam

Richard Schulhoff, of the Arnold Arboretum, presents a slide talk on the elusive yellow camellia which has been hunted for almost a century!

April 12: Special Speaker Betsy Clebsch

Spend a special evening with the fascinating expert whose latest work, ***The New Book of Salvias***, showcases hundreds salvias from around the globe. Learn which salvias grow especially well here. [*admission fee for this special event*]

Info: www.sdhortsoc.org or (760) 730-3268

—WINTER—
—SPRING—
—SUMMER—
—FALL—
January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December
Raphiolepis
Ranunculus
Freesias
Erica melanthera
Bergenia
Clivia
Quince
Muscari
Narcissus
Pink Oxalis
Aloes
Kalanchoe
Flowering
Zygocactus
Abutilon
Callistemon
Camellia japonicas
Acacia baileyana
Wisteria
Ice Plant
Jade Plant
Poppies
Cassia
Red Cestrum
Cape Honeysuckle
Plumbago
Purple trailing Iceplant
Eucalyptus
Stenocarpus
Yellow Elder
Azaleas
New Zealand Tea Trees
Chinese Flame
Liquidambar
Pyracantha
Bird of paradise
Chrysanthemums
Chinese silk tree
Floss
Roses
Bougainvillea
Thevetia
Zephyr Lily
Aster
Prikarti
Coral Trees
Crape Myrtle
Crassula falcata
Ageratum
Zinnias
Hibiscus
Camellia
Albizia
Petunias
Bloodred Trumpet
Naked Ladies
Eucalyptus ficifolia & Cassia
Aztec Lily
Periwinkle
Chaste Tree
Passionflower
Oleanders
Pyracantha
Jerusalem Thorn
Society Garlic
Daylilies
Hoya
Agapanthus
Australian Bluebell
Creeper
Dianthus
Pearl Acacia
Cosmos
Lily of the Nile
Rosea Iceplant
Daisies
Echium fastuosum
Lavender Vine
Golden rain Trees
Gaillardia
Shrimp Plant
Cape Chestnut
Trumpet Vine
Cymbidiums
Martha Washingtons
Pyracantha
Roses
Redbud
Spring Starflower
Transvaal Daisies
Rockroses
Iris
Linaria
Star Jasmine
Dioscea
Sea Pinks
Philadelphus m.
Azaleas
New Zealand Tea Trees
Arctotis
Evergreen Pear

Now is the Time . . .

A CULTURAL CALENDAR OF CARE FROM OUR AFFILIATES, UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, AND *CALIFORNIA GARDEN* STAFF

AFRICAN VIOLETS
Barbara Conrad

NOW IS THE TIME

TO USE one half the recommended amount of fertilizer if you use "wick" watering, as it is a continuous watering system, requiring less nutrients in the well.

TO REPOT violets at least every six months with fresh soil that has been sterilized in oven or microwave.

TO ORDER named violet plants or leaves over the Internet to search for commercial african violet growers and individuals willing to do mailings.

TO LEACH with warm water or repot any violet that has fertilizer salts around the rim of the pot and/or on top of the soil.

TO ISOLATE violets from other houseplants to avoid insect infestations.

BEGONIAS
Margaret Lee

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PUT down tubers to sprout.

TO CLEAN all pots and plantings of dead wood, leaves, and old debris.

TO PROTECT roots with a mulch.

TO START feeding; give ¼ strength of any good all-purpose plant food if feeding once a week, ½ strength if twice a month; full strength if once a month.

TO CONTROL disease and pests by spray and bait.

TO KEEP plants moist, but not wet.

TO START new plants from leaves, cuttings, or seeds.

BONSAI
San Diego Bonsai Club

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATCH watering program according to the rains.

TO GRAFT deciduous plants.

TO REPOT plants; shape to conform to the container.

TO REMEMBER deciduous flowering plants need repotting every year, except quince. Conifers may go three to five years without repotting.

TO ADD small amounts of chelated iron or acidifying preparation to correct alkaline (salt) buildup.

TO WATCH for aphids and other pests.

TO WAIT until April to feed. Use a high nitrogen fertilizer for foliage growth; high phosphorus type to set flowers and fruit.

TO USE ¼-strength fertilizer spread several weeks apart, rather than using full strength only once. Measure accurately. Too much fertilizer can burn roots and cause leaf damage.

BROMELIADS
Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CHECK plants for scale especially during spring when scale is most likely to appear.

TO TREAT plants with scale by dipping or spraying them thoroughly with a solution of Cygon 2E according to directions on the label. Drain excess solution from plant.

TO KEEP plants clean. Cut spent blooms and dead leaves.

TO REPOT your favorite plants in new potting media. This helps them to develop a healthier growth.

TO ALWAYS provide good drainage and never allow the soil to become soggy.

TO FERTILIZE only during the warm months, once a month, preferring a fertilizer high in acid. Use ½ the recommended strength on the label.

CACTI AND SUCCULENTS
Joseph A. Betzler

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PREPARE plants for spring growth by checking soil and pot condition—transplant if needed. Soil mix should be light and water should flow through freely.

TO FERTILIZE your plants regularly.

TO START acclimating the protected plants to outdoor conditions once again, after danger of frost is gone.

TO PROTECT sensitive plants from the rain and sun; bright sun can burn indoor plants.

TO KEEP newly purchased plants separated from your collection until they show signs of good growth without any pests or disease; treat any pest promptly; watch for snails, also. A wet winter might bring you

rodents; mice and rabbits are cute, but no cacti are safe from their nibbles. Protect your plants.

CALIFORNIA NATIVES

Jeanine De Hart

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ENJOY the early blooms in your yard and in the back country. There will be *Ceanothus* in bloom all over the county. It might be a little early for the desert wildflowers, but it is good to call and check as bloom time varies from year to year.

TO PUT out snail bait in the moist areas where you see their trails. Place the bait where pets and children can't get into it.

TO NOTICE poorly drained areas in your garden and plant water loving natives there. Yellow and red monkey flowers, (*Mimulus guttatus* and *M. cardinalis*) and yerba mansa (*Anemopsis californica*) are examples of water loving native perennials.

TO PLAN for your fall planting. Notice areas that need more plants or different plants. Also note areas where plants seem to die. Check the drainage. If necessary, plant on mounds.

CAMELLIAS

Jay Vermilya

NOW IS THE TIME

TO KEEP picking up spent blooms and petals to prevent petal blight.

TO SHAPE your plants to your taste: cut back tips to encourage bushiness; or, alternatively, remove branches/branchlets for a more open plant (permitting air circulation and creating more room for next year's buds to open fully).

TO CONTINUE to feed iron and 0-10-10/2-10-10 fertilizer for enhanced blooms.

TO LOOK for aphids and loopers on new tender foliage. Hose aphids off with water. Use malathion or Orthene for loopers.

TO START feeding with cottonseed meal (about 1 tablespoon per 1-gallon potted plant or up to 2 cups per large plant in ground) after plant has finished blooming and every 4 to 6 weeks until mid-August.

TO STOP any transplanting now that the camellias are in their growth cycle. New plants can still be put in the ground through the end of May but may need special attention particularly on hot days.

DAHLIAS

Abe Janzen

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PLACE tubers in starting medium such as vermiculite or sand. Keep in a warm place to sprout; beware of too much moisture.

TO PREPARE the planting area by adding humus and fertilizer.

TO PLANT sprouted tubers, sprout side up, six inches below ground surface, two inches from stake, and cover with two inches of soil. With little care they are easy to grow and dwarf and bedding types add much beauty to your garden.

TO MOISTEN, but **do not keep wet**.

TO PROTECT new growth from snails.

TO BE SURE to drive stake into ground **before** planting tubers.

EPIPHYLLUMS (Orchid Cactus)

George French

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED epiphyllums with a low nitrogen fertilizer.

TO CHECK trellis to be sure plants are well secured.

TO GIVE plants filtered sunlight to encourage development of buds.

TO BAIT for snails. Granules have proven effective when placed at the base of the plant. They leave little or no residue.

TO CHECK for drainage in April. Do not move plants at this time, but continue to feed for bloom; use Hi-Bloom or bloom-builder type to promote healthy buds and bloom.

TO TAKE cuttings.

TO REMOVE buds from a new plant; that energy needs to go to the root system.

FERNS

San Diego Fern Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FERTILIZE with high nitrogen liquid or pellets.

TO REMOVE dead fronds.

TO CATCH rain water for plants in covered areas.

TO DIVIDE, repot, or add leaf mold to those plants needing it.

TO SPRAY for aphids and scale.

TO PLANT spores.

TO USE vitamin B_1 after dividing; use per instructions on label.

FRUIT TREES AND VINES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO IRRIGATE when new growth begins, if the soil is not moist, to a depth of 3 feet.

TO APPLY fertilizer high in nitrogen. Most mature fruit trees require the equivalent of one pound of

actual nitrogen annually. Divide the amount of fertilizer required into three equal lots and apply them six weeks apart, starting in the spring after new growth begins.

TO BEGIN thinning fruit of apples, pears, and stone fruit when they are about ½" in size. Space fruit 4 to 6 inches apart or leave one fruit per spur. Thin early maturing varieties earlier and heavier than late maturing varieties.

TO CHECK trees for pests. Wash foliage periodically with a forceful spray of water to dislodge aphids, spider mites, and whiteflies. If a pesticide is needed, use a chemical that has short residual activity, such as insecticidal soap or pyrethrin to protect beneficial insects.

TO KEEP ants off trees by wrapping a band of heavy paper around the trunk and applying a barrier of Tanglefoot on it, or by scattering diazinon granules on the soil around the trunk.

TO SPRAY apples after bloom to control codling moth (wormy fruit). Apply diazinon after petals have fallen and twice more at two-week intervals.

TO APPLY sulfur dust to control powdery mildew on grapes when new shoots are 6, 12, 18, and 24 inches long. Then, every two weeks or as needed until harvest.

FUCHSIAS

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PRUNE plants not done earlier.

TO PINCH new growth on plants pruned earlier. As the third set of leaves forms on new growth, pinch out the terminal set. This will result in a bushier plant.

TO FERTILIZE with any good balanced fertilizer.

TO WATCH for insects and treat accordingly.

TO WATER thoroughly the day before spraying.

TO CONTINUE taking cuttings from prunings.

TO CLEAN up fallen leaves, blooms and other trash.

GREEN THUMB ITEMS

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CUTBACK to the basal foliage some herbaceous perennial plants: mums, columbine, coreopsis, some true geraniums, ornamental grasses, evening primrose, many salvias, and Shasta daisies.

TO PRUNE garden poinsettias in March and again in early July. Share your cuttings by giving 3 foot pieces to friends and neighbors.

TO PLANT high-moisture plants where fire-retardant plants are needed. Some desirable plants are sea fig, strawberry tree, carob tree, pineapple quava, oleander, dwarf coyote bush, and pomegranate.

HERBS

John Noble

NOW IS THE TIME.

TO DIG and amend the soil in any open areas of your herbal beds and borders.

TO FEED all your perennial herbs a little compost.

TO VISIT herb nurseries for starters and seeds. Try growing some annuals from seeds—anise, basil, cilantro, dill (abcd ...)

TO PRUNE back overgrown lavender, rosemary, thyme, lemon verbena, chaste tree, ...

TO PROTECT young plants from snails. Use organic practices, especially in an herb garden. Experiment with hand picking, beer traps, bran, copper barriers, and/or invite some possums for a midnight picnic.

TO HARVEST from our native herbs — sagebrush, white sage, black sage, Cleveland sage, yerba mansa, yerba santa, elderberry, ...

TO MAKE fresh herbal bouquets with mint, thyme, rosemary, sage,.... Fresh or dried they make great gifts for your gourmet friends.

IRIS

San Diego/Imperial County Iris Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO START feeding low nitrogen, all-purpose, and liquid fish fertilizers.

TO WATER regularly if no rain.

TO CLEAN beds and keep weeds under control.

TO WATCH for pests—systemic sprays applied as a drench will usually free iris of aphids and thrips.

TO GIVE Japanese and Louisiana irises an application of an acid food—a camellia-type fertilizer is convenient to use.

ORCHIDS

Charles Fouquette

NOW IS THE TIME

TO REPOT *Cattleya* plants that have overgrown their pots. When new green growth starts and new root tips are about 2 inches long, you can plant the division, which should have two or three back bulbs to nourish it. This applies to species *Cattleya*s and *Laelia*s and some intergeneric hybrids.

TO MOVE *Cymbidium* plants to a shady area to keep blooms from fading. Do not rotate—spike will follow the light direction. Continue to feed low nitrogen fertilizer and protect from possible hail or rain.

TO CONTINUE to feed *Phalaenopsis*, which should be in their blooming glory at this time. Feed an even fertilizer, 1/4-strength every watering. On the 5th watering, use clear water to flush the salts from the

potting media. Try not to rotate plants as you work with them.

TO PAY ATTENTION to air movement, good water, and careful feeding of *Oncidium*, *Odontoglossum,* and *Brassia*. They are not as forgiving as other genera—they may grow and not flower. Researching where and how they grow will reward you with some of nature's most unusual and brilliant flowers.

TO PROVIDE fairly high heat, humidity, and air movement to *Vanda*s and *Ascocenda*s. They are heavy feeders and require an even fertilizer. When in active growth, the root tips will be green and growing. Keep the roots damp, but not soggy, with fertilized water. Most of these plants are raised in a fairly open potting mix and have a number of aerial roots.

TO WATCH for slugs, snails, red spiders, mealybugs, and aphids, and treat as needed.

TO REMEMBER this month the show season starts almost everywhere. Going to the shows will give you an opportunity to see new plants, to attend free culture classes, and purchase new plants. Ask questions. Shows are where the knowledgeable congregate.

PELARGONIUMS

Carol Roller

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER thoroughly when plants become somewhat dry. Allow excess water to drain away. Keep foliage as dry as possible. Provide the best possible drainage.

TO WATCH FOR *Botrytis* (gray mold) and treat it immediately.

TO CONTINUE FEEDING a balanced fertilizer containing micronutrients. Dissolve in water, using less than the recommended amount as often as needed to keep the plants growing well. As the temperature becomes warmer, long term pellets may be used.

TO CONTINUE pest and disease control, using all products according to the manufacturer's directions.

TO PRUNE and make cuttings of ivies and zonals if they have not been pruned. Avoid cutting regals, scenteds and related types because their flowers will be lost by pruning them at this time.

TO REMOVE faded flowers and old, discolored leaves.

TO ROTATE pots on a regular basis to produce well-shaped plants.

ROSES

Marianne Truby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER deeply to encourage your bushes to produce strong stems and healthy foliage.

TO WATER roses day before feeding or spraying and again after feeding.

TO VARY the products used to provide the essential nutrients and micro-nutrients for your roses. Roses require a balanced diet to produce the **blooms** for which we grow them. High nitrogen will produce unusually tall bushes, which in many cases appear out of place in our home landscape, and that has contributed to too many negative comments about unattractive bushes. Along with the need for organic materials, we now recognize that nitrogen alone will seldom produce the quality and quantity of bloom we strive to produce.

TO VISIT your roses often to observe and enjoy their growth and revel in the beautiful early foliage.

TO CHECK daily for signs of unwanted pests, early signs of nutrition deficiency, and/or early weeds and grasses.

TO CONTROL aphids by washing them off with a strong stream of water from the hose in the early morning.

TO CONTROL thrips damage to blooms by using Orthinex (available in an atomizer spray) on blooms just as they begin to drop their sepals. Thrips become very active when the local uncared for vegetation dries up because of lack of moisture. Thrips distort the blooms by sucking the moisture from the petals and the bloom fails to open properly.

TO RECORD your garden maintenance efforts. Time does fly when you're having fun!

TO PREPARE to adjust your schedule to weather conditions. Foggy cool days are certain to encourage mildew in the rose garden and an early heat wave means you must water, water, water. To a limited degree, washing off your bushes in the early morning will delay mites and even early mildew.

TO LEARN rose terminology. Particularly become acquainted with the difference between a sucker and a basal break! A sucker is **unwanted** and a basal break is a beginning to a new cane, which is what we are trying to produce so we can cut off the old worn out canes at next year's pruning!

TO ENJOY your roses during these months, weather permitting, the months of glory for roses and rosarians.

TO ATTEND garden shows and appreciate all the wonderful plant materials that abound in Southern California.

TO PLAN for replacement varieties of roses during the growing season by observing carefully roses in gardens in your area. Usually roses that do well in the

coastal areas will not have enough petals to produce good roses in the inland areas. Avoid roses that are susceptible to mildew.

VEGETABLES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PREPARE soil for planting by incorporating compost and a complete fertilizer high in phosphorus. Apply chemical fertilizers just before planting. If manures are used, apply them at least two weeks before planting and irrigate to leach salts from the surface soil. Apply twenty pounds of poultry manure or fifty pounds of steer manure per hundred square feet.

TO MAKE a last planting of cool season vegetables such as leaf lettuce, beets, and kohlrabi that will mature before hot summer weather arrives.

TO SET OUT tomato transplants after danger of frost has past. Delay planting beans, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, melons, peppers, and squash until the soil is warm. Use hot caps or floating row covers to promote faster growth.

VEGETABLES, ANNUALS

from UC Cooperative Extension Publications

NOW IS ONE OF THE BEST TIMES IN FROST-FREE AREAS

TO PUT IN TRANSPLANTS OF: cabbage and eggplant.

TO PUT IN SEEDS OF: beans (lima, pole, snap), beets, carrots, chard, corn, cucumbers, endive, gourds, kale, lettuce (leaf), melons (cantaloupe, casaba), okra, onions (green), parsley, parsnips, peas (bush), peppers, radishes, spinach (in March), squash (summer and winter), tomatoes, turnips, and watermelon — ageratum, amaranthus, balsam, canterbury bells, carnations, celosia, coleus, cosmos, daisies (African), dusty miller, four o'clocks, impatiens, lobelia, marigold, morning glory, nasturtium, petunia, phlox, portulaca, salvia, scabiosa, statice. tithonia. verbena. vinca. zinnias.

Beautiful Plants for Sale at Moderate Prices

MiraCosta Horticulture Club
of Oceanside
8th annual Gardener's Market Plant Sale
Saturday, April 17 (rain date April 18)
8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Where: Wal-Mart west Oceanside store
(outside garden shop)
2100 Vista Way
Jefferson freeway exit in Oceanside
Come meet the friendly club. (760) 643-0177

Ikebana international

San Diego Chapter #119

Spring Show
Casa del Prado – Balboa Park

Sat. March 20: 12:00- 4:00
Sun. March 21: 10:00- 4:00
Sunday, related arts culture display

Coronado Flower Show
"Nature at Play"
April 17, 2004 1-5:30 PM
April 18, 2004 10 AM-4 PM

In Coronado Under the Big white Tent
Between 6th and 7th on Orange Avenue

Adults $3.00; under 12 and CFA members free
Public invited to enter- For details visit
www.coronadoflowershow.com

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San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado, San Diego, CA 92101-1622 [in Casa del Prado, Balboa Park]

32 CALIFORNIA BUCKEYE *(Aesculus californica)* Hippocastanaceae family. Deciduous, height 15-40′, leaves bright green, turning yellow in summer and dropping in early fall. Fragrant cream-colored flowers followed by leathery fruit capsules. native to California. Extracts of the seeds are used as anti-inflammatory in hemorrhoid situations and varicose veins.

33 HONEY LOCUST *(Robinia x ambigua 'Idahoensis')* Fabaceae family. Deciduous, 40′ high x 30′ wide. Magenta rose flowers spring to early summer. Flowers are edible and used in fritters and jams. The poisonous bark and roots used as purgatives and emetics. Flowers used as diuretics.

34 TULIP TREE *(Liriodendron tulipifera)* Magnoliaceae family. Deciduous, 60-80′ high x 40′ wide. Tulip shaped greenish yellow flowers in late spring. The tree has had a wide range of medicinal uses in teas, ointments and solutions such as bark tea for indigestion, rheumatism, and pinworm, and crushed leaves for a poultice for headaches.

35 AFRICAN TULIP TREE *(Spathodea campanulata)* Bignoniaceae family. Evergreen, 40-75′ high x 20-50′ wide. Scarlet to blood red flowers in Spring and sporadically thru year. Bark used for backaches, skin diseases and dysentery. Leaf decoction is poison antidote and used for venereal diseases and kidney trouble.

36 WHITE POPINAC *(Leucaena leucocephala)* Fabaceae Family. Deciduous, to 30′ high. Greenish-white flowers in spring to early summer followed by long seed pods. Bark used for internal pain. Bark and root used as contraceptive and depilatory. Seeds used as food, high in vitamin A and protein.

37 COFFEE BERRY *(Rhamnus californica)* Rhamnaceae family. Evergreen, 3′ to 15′ high x 8′ wide. Greenish-yellow flowers late spring to early summer followed by red berries turning black when ripe. Bark is laxative. Berries used on burns, infections and wounds. Bark of root and stems are used as panacea for flu, kidney problems, rheumatism, gonorrhea and mania.

Coffee Berry

38 AFRICAN WALNUT *(Lovoa trichiliodes/Schotia brachypetala)*
Fabaceae family. Deciduous, 50′ high. Flowers are deep red in spring. Bark used to treat heartburn and hangovers. Bark and roots used as blood purifier and to treat nervous heart conditions and diarrhea.

Scientific names used in above were taken from *The Herb Society of American Encyclopedia of Herbs & Their Uses* by Deni Bown, and *Eyewitness Handbooks, Herbs* by Lesley Bremness.

This is the second of a two-part article revision of the brochure entitled *Self-Guided Walk Trees for Health Enhancement Project,* Balboa Park, San Diego, CA 1998-2004, with permission from the editors. The brochure is available at the kiosk on the walk. Photography by Paul Lovick. San Diego Floral Association is not advising use of herbal remedies without professional medical consultation. They are listed for your entertainment.

CORRECTION
A question arose as to whether or not number 21 was properly labeled in the last issue and original brochure. In response, Kathy Puplava submitted the correct photo and writes: "*The San Diego Park Department regrets the error. Please publish with the second half of the article in Mar-April 2004. We will correct brochure at the next printing.*"

Original photo

21 LEMONADEBERRY *(Rhus integrifolia)*
Anacardiaceae. Evergreen, height 3-10′. Flat leathery aromatic leaves, small pink flowers in winter and flattened, reddish fruit spring through fall. native to California. The Cahuilla Indians made a tea from the leaves to treat coughs and colds. Berries can be used to make a lemonade type drink. See correct photo below showing February bloom.

MEYER LEMONS FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

BY VIRGINIA MAPLES INNIS

THE SELECTION OF A FRUIT tree is important. Sometimes the selection may be influenced by the memory of a special tree. My late brother-in-law grew wonderful lemons. When it became possible to get a lemon tree, I wanted a tree that would bear lemons just like the ones he grew.

Usually each city has nurseries that will identify samples of fruit for you. In San Diego, I took a beautiful lemon to Walter Andersen Nursery. "Citrus limon 'Meyer,'" the nurseryman said, "it's a Meyer lemon." He added, "It is often called the bartender's lemon." The nurseryman told me that great improvements have been made on the old Meyer lemon. It was changed in 1978 and a new improved lemon form was introduced. It is more resistant to infection and virus diseases, but the fruit is like the original. ['Improved Meyer' is the only one that can be sold in California, according to *Sunset Western Garden Book*.]

Lemons for sale at markets are most likely 'Eureka' or 'Lisbon'. The Meyer lemon varies a lot from these other lemons. It has a thinner skin; its fruit is more round; it has less acid content; and it has a tangy aroma. This lemon tree bears at an early age and has fruit year round. It is a perfect tree!

Lemon tree foliage is dark green and glossy. Flowers are fragrant and fruit is attractive. A lemon tree will enhance any garden or landscape. It needs good soil, good drainage, and heat that does not drop below 20°F. Lemons can be grown in cold climates if they can winter in a green house or sun room. The dwarf Meyer does well under these circumstances, better than any other lemon.

Newly planted trees need water to get started. Established, outside growing trees need water twice a month. More water is needed if the weather is hot or a Santa Ana wind is blowing. Container-grown plants need a different water schedule. Work out a water schedule with the nursery when you acquire the plant.

Lemon trees vary in size. A Meyer standard lemon tree can grow twelve feet high and become fifteen feet wide. It will respond to pruning or training to espalier. A tree on dwarf stock will grow to half the size of a standard tree.

Citrus trees need to be fed and will reward you with more fruit that will be sweeter. Citrus food comes in granules in boxes, spikes that can be driven into the earth, and in liquid solutions that can be applied with waterings or by foliar feeding. Whatever one you use it is important to follow the directions that come with the product. If you don't feed your citrus trees, leaves may turn yellow or get yellow blotches. This is called chlorosis or iron deficiency. A good feeding with a citrus product that contains chelated iron will cure the problem.

Citrus trees can get aphids, mites, scale, and other insects. Generally an occasional jet of water helps a tree stay clean. A spring oil spray helps keep down pests.

LEMONS IN THE KITCHEN

Lemons are the rewards from growing a lemon tree. Both hot and cold tea drinkers appreciate lemons. Lemonade is a great product. Lemons add a lot of flavor to punch and sangria and a twist to many cocktails. Peel adds a good quality to homemade flavored wine vinegar. Fresh lemon juice with oil makes a great salad dressing. Grated lemon peel called zest gives a good lemon flavor to cakes, cookies and preserves.

There is an old saying — *If life gives you lemons, make lemonade.* Better advice is — *If you love lemons, get a tree.* And, if you live in Southern California, get a Meyer lemon tree.

Asian-Style White Wine Vinegar

2 lemons
1 (6 inch) piece of fresh ginger peeled, sliced
2 green 'Jalapeño' or 'Serrano' peppers, seeded and halved
2 red 'Jalapeño' or 'Serrano' peppers, seeded and halved
4 tsp. coriander seeds, toasted
4 garlic cloves, halved
8 large sprigs of cilantro
5 cups white wine vinegar

Cut long strips of lemon peel with vegetable peeler. With a chop stick or skewer divide and insert ginger slices. Add the green and red chilis, coriander, garlic, and cilantro. Heat the vinegar and pour into the mix. Let stand overnight in bottles or nonmetallic containers. Strain and bottle. Makes four 12 ounce bottles. □

Virginia Innes is a Master National Council Landscape Design Consultant. She served four years on the California Garden Clubs State Board, two years as a Director, and two years as the chairman of the Design Consultants Council.

A NAIVE BIRD WATCHER'S EXPERIENCES WITH WILD BIRDS

BY ROBERT HORWITZ

WHEN MY WIFE AND I built our house in Point Loma there were very few houses around and many empty lots. The wildlife included snakes, skunks, foxes, possums, and many species of birds. As the neighborhood matured and houses were built, a lot of this wildlife disappeared due to the lack of food, homeowners' pets, and the efforts of the homeowners.

In the bird category, there were quail, pigeons, doves, sea gulls, humming birds, blue jays, sparrows, and an occasional hawk. Over the years the population changed probably due to the changing and maturing gardens and the edible elements they produced. I am sure, also, that the pet cats had a lot to do with the changes.

In the early 60s I bought a duck egg that was ready to hatch from an Ocean Beach pet store. I gave the egg to my kids, and they were enchanted in watching the egg hatch. Out came this duckling who matured into a white drake that the kids named Claude. He had a very strong territorial imperative and for the eight years he lived he was truly a "watch duck."

We had a pet blue jay that was named Charlie. He became so tame that he would perch on my shoulder when I was out in my garden and take seed out of my hand. He would bring his family around to enjoy the handouts. Quite often I would hear him pecking on our garden door. It was a reminder that it was time to eat.

As the years went by, the bird population changed. The pigeons disappeared, the mocking bird population grew, and, interestingly, flocks of wild parrots started from strays from who knows where. They are still here nesting in palm trees close to Point Loma Nazarene University. Flocks consist of macaws, Amazon green cheeks, and parakeets.

Humming birds like the area because of the blooming plants whose flowers provide them with nectar. I have had humming bird feeders over the years and watched how the instincts for survival come into play. A green throated male took charge and guarded the feeder, allowing his family to it and on rare occasions birds outside the family.

Recently the bird population once again changed with ravens moving in and chasing away some of the mocking birds. It is interesting to see over one hundred ravens sitting on the utility wires, all facing in the same direction and simultaneously fly off in scattered formation.

All through the years, the sparrows and the doves have held a steady population The doves like to nest in my staghorn ferns and during the time the nests are occupied, watering must be done very carefully so as not to harm the chicks.

When the English ivies that festoon many of my fences start ripening their berries, hundreds of starlings will descend and in five minutes strip the ivy bare of fruit. Then off in a flash, they swoop away in formation in search of more berries.

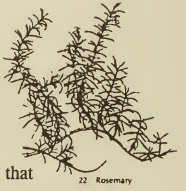
Having birds to watch is one of the rewards for growing a garden. Also, the birds eat aphids, spiders, white flies, and ants and help keep them under control. □

Robert Horwitz is a retired space engineer who gardens in the Point Loma section of San Diego.

DESIGNING AN HERB GARDEN

BY JOHN NOBLE

15 Lemon thyme


22 Rosemary

4 Bay leaves

3. Basil

16. Lemon verbena

11. Dill

14. Lavender

24. Sage

6. Calendula

5. Borage

HERBS INTRIGUE US. They seduce us with their gift of flavors, scents, and other comforting and healing properties. They caress our senses; and in an almost hypnotic stupor, or an elated consciousness, we fall in love with them. We desire to take them home with us and make them part of the family. Let's give them good homes.

In designing an herb garden, ask yourself a few questions. Which herbs do you desire? Start by making a list and then visit a nursery to add to your desires. Are you creating a culinary herb garden or a medicinal herb garden? Many plants are both. Do you want a designated area to be your herb garden, or do you want the herbs integrated with other plants throughout your landscape? Would you like it to be natural or formal in design? Most importantly, and as in any garden design, how much maintenance do you want to do? Do you want to work in your garden everyday, or once a week, or once a month? All these questions are related and when answered together, they will help you plan your garden.

There are thousands of plants considered to be herbs. By definition, botanically an herb is any seed plant that dies down to the ground each year as compared to a woody shrub or tree, and horticulturally an herb is any plant used as a medicine, perfume, seasoning, or flavoring. We are working with the horticultural herbs: basil, thyme, rosemary, lavender, dandelion, horsetail, elderberry, etc.

Create a list. What plants would you like in your garden? Many of our local native plants, such as white sage, yerba santa, and yerba mansa, have culinary and medicinal properties. Do research in books, magazines, and the Internet. Go to nurseries and botanical gardens to expand your awareness of herbs. Balboa Park has a self-guided walk of medicinal trees. Quail Botanical Gardens has a great annual Herb Festival, with many great speakers, vendors, and plant walks. This year the event is on the weekend of April 24 and 25.

Herbs have culinary and medicinal properties. Often as with basil, thyme, peppermint, and camomile they overlap. Do you prefer one property of the herb over the other? If so, focus your list of plants on that side and just become aware of the other.

Herbs include trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals. You can place them throughout your garden mixed with all kinds of plants, or you can designate an area as your herb garden. In either case, choose your perennial plants in shaping your garden or giving it bones. Lavender, rosemary, germander make nice hedges and borders. Grow your annuals in flower beds or in your vegetable garden. These include basil, dill, cilantro, and borage.

Do you prefer neatness and rows, or do you prefer your garden to be a little wild and natural? Either takes some effort and planning. Geometric shapes and symmetry create formal gardens. They are orderly and can either be highly maintained and trimmed to perfection, but they also can be lightly maintained and allowed a little natural growth.

A natural garden design will have irregular curves and shapes. The plantings will be more mixed and will need a little less care. Instead of the formal individual hedges of rosemary, lavender, myrtle, or roses, the natural herb garden will have a mixed hedge. Always try to maintain the pathways and help some plants from being smothered by others.

Maintenance is always an important factor in garden design. Especially in fruit tree, vegetable, and herb gardens, where there is a harvestable reward for your effort. Be realistic in your planting. You want to feel good about your relationship with your garden. If you have little time, plant low-maintenance herbs such as native sages, rosemary, lavender, calendula, borage, bay, lemon verbena, and thyme. If you have the time and energy, plant a million herbs and enjoy your garden's productivity to the max. Watch them grow, use them fresh, dry them for flavorings and teas, tincture them for homemade medicine. Share them with friends and family. In this concrete world let them heal us.

We are in a relationship on this planet. □

John Noble is president of the San Diego Floral Association. He is a partner in two businesses: In Harmony Herbs and Spices and Coastal Sage Gardening.

As a possible aid to victims of recent fires, we are reprinting these articles that ran in May-June 2002 issue of California Garden.

PROPAGATION OF OAKS

BY JEANINE DE HART

THE MOST DIFFICULT PART of propagating oaks is to be able to gather the acorns before insects get to them. It is always necessary to pick them while still on the tree, but ripe. They will change from green to beige or brown when ripe. Once they fall, it is almost always too late. If planted immediately, they need no treatment. If you gather them and want to wait to plant, they will need to be stratified.

To stratify, mix the acorns with about four parts damp soil, store in sealed bags in the fridge for no more than six to eight weeks. Oaks in the white oak family lose viability rapidly. These would be Engelmann oak (*Quercus engelmannii*), coastal scrub-oak (*Q. dumosa*), valley oak (*Q. lobata*) and desert scrub-oak (*Q. turbinella*). It is better to sow them immediately upon collection. Oaks in the black oak family can be stratified and kept for spring planting. These would be black oak (*Q. kelloggii*), interior live-oak (*Q. chrysolepis*) and coastal live-oak (*Q. agrifolia*). Collection time is August and September for most oaks. There are other oaks in California, but these are the ones you probably will see and collect from.

If there are more than one species of oak where you are collecting, you might well get a hybrid as they cross freely. If you want to know yours is "pure," gather in a spot where only one species grows.

It is almost impossible to keep the tap root unless the acorn is planted in the ground. The tap root may be a foot long by the time a sprout appears above the pot! I cut off about a third, which allows a net system of roots to form. Oaks planted out of containers have had their tap root cut and will not be as drought tolerant as oaks that germinate in the ground.

After the acorns begin to germinate, take them all out and plant in deep one-gallon containers (available at nursery supply centers). After they are well rooted in a deep pot, plant where they are to stay. Water regularly for the first year or two, then back off to a deep watering to augment winter rains. Once every other week should be sufficient in the winter time. Every three weeks in the summer time.

Oaks are thought to be slow growing, but in the first few years they will grow rapidly. After they have grown to about half their adult size, they slow their growth considerably. On Seeman drive in Encinitas an Engelman oak planted in 1984 was about 30 feet tall and a canopy as wide by year 2000.

If you have a copy of my book, there is a picture on page 2 of an oak seedling that I germinated. □

Center: top oak is *Quercus agrifolia*, bottom is *Quercus lobata*
Oaks **may** not be comparative size as drawings indicate.

Jeanine De Hart, at age fifty, graduated from SDSU with a degree in botany in order to pursue a career in California native plants. Her book, "Propagation Secrets for California Native Plants," is available for $6.00, including postage and handling. Send request to 3928 Sundart Drive, Lexington KY 40517-3863.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT OAK TREE

DOUGLAS D. MCCREARY, NATURAL RESOURCES Specialist of the UC Cooperative Extension writes that for success in growing oaks, it is important to plant only a particular oak species in an area where it naturally occurs or where it may have grown in the past. It is also important to plant only acorns from a tree growing in the same general environment. For example, though the same species grows in both areas, an acorn or seedling from the coast likely would not do well in the colder, dryer conditions of the interior.

If you buy from a nursery, make sure you find out if the growing location is similar to the environment where you will be growing the oaks. By collecting acorns yourself, you can be sure from where they come, and you can know that they are handled and stored properly.

If you are collecting the acorns yourself, McCreary says you can pick them from the trees or the ground. However, just be sure not to use those that are very small, cracked, or feel light and hollow.

Obtain more information on acorns vs. seedlings, local seed sources, storing acorns, planting layout, and nurseries producing native California oaks from a four-page publication "How to Grow California Oaks" by Douglas D. McCreary. Single copies are free. To order, write Integrated Hardwood Range Management Program, 160 Mulford Hall, University of California, Berkeley CA 94720-3114. The FAX number is 510/643-5438. □

Jacqueline Coleman

Quercus engelmannii

KATE SESSIONS BOOK

The complete collection of writings by Kate Sessions in *California Garden* magazine from 1909 until 1939 is available at the San Diego Floral Association in Room 105, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. This book contains a plant index, and many changes in plant names, particularly scientific, have been noted. Often known as "The Mother of Balboa Park," Kate Sessions for over fifty years devoted her life to helping people grow beautiful plants in San Diego. She tells how in this book.

ROLAND HOYT BOOK REPRINT

Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions by Roland Stewart Hoyt has been reprinted by his sons. This book has been available only at rare book stores until now (going rate $65). Bill and Mike have donated the new books to San Diego Floral Association. Ten dollars of each book sale will be added to the scholarship fund established in the name of Ethel and Roland Hoyt. The books are available at office above.

Half the book is a written description and sketch of each plant. In recent years, many scientific names have been changed, but there is an updated nomenclature at the end of the book.

The Complete Writings of Kate Sessions 1909-1939

☐ **$21.00 non-members (book, tax, mailing)**
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($18 or $15 if picked up, tax included)

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FLORA: A Gardener's Encyclopedia
Sean Hogan, Chief North American Consultant
Portland, Timber press, 2003, 1,584 pages, 12,000+ color photos, CD-Rom included with first edition, 9″ x 12″, hardcover, $99.95

Most gardeners have a favorite reference book for the basic listing of plants, not necessarily including how to care for them. I still use *Tropica* by A. B. Graf and *What Flower is That* by Stirling Macoboy. Since my edition of *Tropica* was published in 1986, it probably is time to invest in another reference and *Flora* would certainly fill that need (including up-to-date nomenclature and cultivation information). It is written by a team of authors including John Trager from Huntington Botanical Gardens, whose specialty is succulents and dry gardening. The list of contributors is very long. This American edition lists short biographies only of American contributors. The book is a property of Global Book Publishing in Australia.

It covers all plants from trees to bulbs, succulents, palms, vegetables. For example, beets *Beta vulgaris* is listed between the succulent *Beschorneria* and the birch *Betula*. Plants are included appropriate for all hardiness zones. The explanation of these twelve zones and their different looks sets the stage for the A to Z listing of plants. This listing includes family, country or region of origin, size in both feet and meters, color of bloom, propagation, and growing needs.

Many will find the CD-Rom useful. It lets you refine your search, for example plants that attract birds, or those suited to coastal gardens or containers. It also can make connections with websites for plant societies, such as palms or bulbs. The one I want to pursue is plant databases. Just for fun there are a limited number of plants listed under "Plants Through Seasons" where pictures of the same plant in same location change from full bloom to bare branches and back again.

The main drawback is the weight of the book. It is published in two volumes with a slipcase, each volume weighing a pound or so less than *Tropica*. So it is usable. My preference would have been not to have included sixty-seven pages of roses, fifty-seven pages of rhododendrons, and twenty six pages of camellias, showing countless cultivars and adding weight. But I can imagine many lovers of these flowers feeling that it is a plus to have the latest cultivars shown and so perhaps update their specialized books. Probably the weakest section is that on trees. *Ceratonia siliqua* is said to have a "rank smell attracting numerous bees and flies." I walk past these trees almost daily and have never noticed an odor. Under *Erythrina* the species *coralloides* is not included and under *Paulownia* the species *kawakamii* is not included. But then the listings of many succulents and *Euphorbia* are very good.

It is difficult to find one book that fills every need, but by including information on 20,000 plants with 12,000 photos, *Flora* is as complete as one might expect.

Reviewed by R. Cox

THE CITY GARDENER
Matt James
North Pomfret, Vt., Trafalgar Square Publishing, 2004, 144 pages, color throughout, 8½″ x 11″, hardcover, $29.95

Matt James is a good looking young man who hosts a TV gardening program in Britain. He has strong ideas about gardening organically, naturalistic landscaping and the rewards of nurturing plants in limited spaces. Although much of the plant material he utilizes is not appropriate for Southern California, his detailed descriptions of just how to enhance small areas for beauty and entertaining would be applicable anywhere.

A magazine format presents much information enlivened by many photos, most of which feature the author, himself, doing the very things he writes about. He's definitely a hands-on kind of guy, as he leads the reader in a "preamble around the garden" with the Brit-slang heading: "your urban paradise is waiting to happen — so get stuck in!" and follows up with reassurances that mistakes can turn into happy accidents and no one really is an expert, anyway. Subsequent chapters guide the beginning gardener through decisions on where, how and what to plant; this includes the thought that even a "gardenless garden" is a real possibility with containers.

Possibly the most unusual chapter is "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly," a collection of his favorite, and least favorite plants, with carefully explained reasons for his opinions. Among the first category are such familiars as *Verbena bonariensis*, *Euphorbia mellifera*, and *Pittosporum tobira*. Because of their ungainly size, his "bads" include *Buddleja davidii*, *Lavatera,* and *Wisteria*, but among his "uglies" are *Fremontodendron california*,

"overrated, fussy, and belligerent!", scentless roses, and yuccas. Such candor is intriguing and should stimulate some original thinking on the part of the reader.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

CAMELLIAS: A Practical Gardening Guide
Jim Rolfe and Yvonne Cave

Portland, Timber Press, 2003, 142 pages, 115 color photos, 22 line drawings, 7″ x 9¾″, softcover, $19.95

Known in their native China as the most beautiful flower under the heavens, camellias can be grown as shrubs or trees, but, according to the authors of this complete little book, they can enhance any garden, given the right kind of care. Camellias are not always planted as part of an overall landscape design, and it is one of this book's aims to show how they can be effectively combined with other plants. Whether as specimen trees or part of a woodland background, in hedges, espaliers, or even as ground cover; these are versatile plants that can serve a wide variety of design purposes.

The authors also devote several chapters to the evolution of camellia nomenclature, with color photos of the various species, cultivars, and mutants. Other photos illustrate breeding goals for color, fragrance, size, and growth speed. With so many choices, the authors offer guidance in selecting camellias to grow in open ground, or in shade as long as there is acid, well-draining soil and humus. They also provide all the necessary information for nurturing and propagating camellias. The final section of the book includes an annotated list of camellia species and cultivars, with descriptions of color, size, and growth zones.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

CATS' X.Y.Z.
Beverly Nichols

Portland, Timber Press, 2003, 136 pages, 142 color drawings, 6¼″ x 9¼″, hardcover, $19.95

This author of many garden books has put his own plants and trees in the background as he relates the foibles and exploits of his beloved cats. As he points out at the very beginning, there are F-people (and dogs) who like-love cats and non-F types who don't; if you are one of the former, you will enjoy his doting account of the feline goings-on at his menage. If you don't fit into this category, better you find something else to do (He advises "walking your corgi," a species he also labels non-F).

Strong opinions are not the exclusive reserve of the author, his cats seem full of them, and ready to express themselves in all sorts of ways. They are at home wherever they choose to be and have their own routines and responsibilities. As described by their fond master, the attitudes of X., Y., and Z, more familiarly known as "Four, Five, and Oscar," come to represent all manner of issues, some purely personal and others of a more philosophic nature. They are presented in short alphabetically titled chapters, from Autumn, through Neighbors to Windows and XYZ, which is a letter from the author to his subjects. The pages throughout are generously embellished with handsome drawings in black and white and color.

There is really nothing here to tax the mind but much to elevate the spirits (if you like cats!). It is a delightful glimpse into an early post-World War II country life, civilized and humane, filled with the simplest of pleasures and the warmest of hearts.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

ROCK GARDEN: Design and Construction
North American Rock Garden Society, Jane McGary, Editor

Portland, Timber Press, 2003, 316 pages, 103 color photos, 6″ x 9″, hardcover, $29.95

The collective efforts of many enthusiastic rock gardeners make this the ultimate resource for those wishing to create mini-habitats for special plants that might otherwise not survive. For plant collectors, especially those in caught up in zonal denial, here is a landscape concept full of challenges and rewards.

The authors discount the notion that a rock garden could be a juniper surrounded by three large boulders; instead they present the many forms of landscaping that provide rock sheltered pockets of the specific growing conditions required for a specific plant. The main essentials are the proper kinds of soil, irrigation and exposure. They could be part of a larger garden or covered in an alpine house or just a balcony container.

Photos and charts enliven the text-book format, as the various authors describe design principles and the many types of rock gardens that can be had. Most familiar are berms and planted walls, but rocky crevices and outcroppings or even dry sand beds can be utilized for this unique type of landscaping. Planting rock gardens of dwarf conifers and woody plants or using only cactus and succulents or even bulbs, are the topics of separate chapters. Another one, on making troughs out of various materials, including hyper-tufa, would be of interest to any gardener.

Of special advantage is a section devoted to regional styles and techniques, including California. Also helpful is the appendix section with extensive charts of the characteristics, uses, and sources for various soil ingredients, mineral soil amendments, and organic materials.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

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Deadline for May-Jun issue: Apr 1, 2004

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27th Annual Standard Flower Show
Poway Valley Garden Club
Holidays
April 24,2004 9a.m. to 2p.m.
Free Admission
Old Poway Park, Poway
Designers and public welcome.
Judging will be April 23 at 10 a.m.
Entries welcome - registration deadline April 17
Entries accepted April 22 5-8p.m., April 23 7-9 a.m.
Information: 858-672-6225 or 760-788-1393

CONSULTING
LANDSCAPE
ARTIST

619.298.7641
MONTHLY

DESIGN - LACE
ORGANIZE - TEACH
SHOP and PLACE
OBJECTS & PLANTS

CALIFORNIA GARDEN (USPS 0084-020)
San Diego Floral Association, Inc.
1650 El Prado #105
San Diego CA 92101-1622 USA

PERIODICALS POSTAGE